**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR THE REVEREND DR. WILLIAM SWINTON, JR., PASTOR OF EBENEZER AME CHURCH IN CHARLESTON, FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF GOSPEL MINISTRY AND TO WISH HIM GOD’S RICHEST BLESSINGS AS HE CONTINUES TO SERVE THE LORD.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina House of Representatives honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to succor the souls of men; and

Whereas, the Reverend Dr. William Swinton, Jr., pastor of Ebenezer AME Church in Charleston, stands among their number as an outstanding minister of the Gospel, one much admired by colleagues, congregation, and area residents at large; and

Whereas, born in Charleston the sixth child of seven children, William Swinton, Jr., was influenced greatly by his father’s hard work and determination. As a result, from an early age the young William had an innate desire to achieve; and

Whereas, in preparation for his life’s work, William Swinton graduated from South Carolina State University in 1979, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration. While at South Carolina State, he received the call to ministry; and

Whereas, after working in business for several years, he felt a strong need to prepare himself more adequately for pastoral ministry. In 1981, he enrolled at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma, graduating in 1984 with a master of divinity; and

Whereas, during his seminary days, William Swinton completed what he considers one of the greatest achievements of his life when he met and married the former Cheryl Rena Felix. God blessed their union with two fine sons, William Swinton III (Trey) and John Cameron Felix Swinton; and

Whereas, the Reverend Dr. Swinton has a thirst for knowledge, particularly in the area of theology and ethics, and continually “[studies] to show himself approved ... a workman ... rightly dividing the word of truth” (II Timothy 2:15). In pursuit of further knowledge, accordingly, in 1994 he earned his doctor of ministry from Drew University in Madison, New Jersey; and

Whereas, his ministry has taken him from pulpit to college podium. The Reverend Dr. Swinton has pastored Holy Trinity and Friendship AME churches, both in Mount Pleasant, as well as Bethel AME Church in Georgetown, and currently serves as pastor of Ebenezer AME Church in Charleston. Beyond the walls of the church, he has served as an adjunct professor for Voorhees College (Charleston campus), and he is a life member of the NAACP and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives, cognizant of his many years of spiritual nourishment of the people of South Carolina, takes great pleasure in expressing grateful thanks to the Reverend Dr. Swinton and in wishing him God’s best as he continues to run the race the Lord has set before him. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor the Reverend Dr. William Swinton, Jr., pastor of Ebenezer AME Church in Charleston, for his many years of Gospel ministry and wish him God’s richest blessings as he continues to serve the Lord.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Reverend Dr. William Swinton, Jr.

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